

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An epilator apparatus for the removal of hairs (3), **characterized in that** ~~provision is made for~~ comprising a tape (5) ~~which has an adhesive effect and is adheres to the hairs and then is fed to a plucking zone in which where~~ the hairs (3) are plucked from the skin (2).
2. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to claim 1, **characterized in that** ~~provision is made for~~ further comprising a pressure device (6) for applying the tape (5) against the skin (2).
3. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to claim 2, **characterized in that** wherein the tape (5) is oriented relative to the pressure device (6) such as that the adhesive side of the tape is to be applied against the skin (2) with its adhesive side.
4. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to ~~any one of the preceding claims,~~ **characterized in that** ~~in the plucking zone~~ claim 2 further comprising a deflector device is arranged positioned in the plucking zone such that the deflector device which guides the tape (5) away from the skin (2).
5. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to claim 4, **characterized in that** wherein the tape (5) is fed from the pressure device (6) to the deflector device.
6. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to ~~any one of the claim[[s]] 4 or 5,~~ **characterized in that** wherein the deflector device includes two juxtaposed

deflector elements ~~(7, 11)~~ and the tape (5) is passed ~~through~~ between the two deflector elements ~~(7, 11)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to claim 6, **characterized in that** wherein the two deflector elements ~~(7, 11)~~ are urged against each other.

8. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to ~~any one of the~~ claim[[s]] 6 or 7, **characterized in that** wherein the two deflector elements ~~(7, 11)~~ are rotatably suspended.

9. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to ~~any one of the~~ preceding claims claim 1, **characterized in that** wherein the tape (5) is adapted to be unwound from a first supply reel (4).

10. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to ~~any one of the~~ preceding claims claim 1 further comprising, **characterized in that** a take-up reel, which receives (8) is provided for receiving the tape after it passes through the plucking zone (5).

11. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to claim 10, **characterized in that** further comprising a drive motor is provided for which drives driving the take-up reel (8).

12. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to ~~any one of the~~ preceding claim[[s]] 1, **characterized in that** provision is made for further comprising an additional tape (10) that ~~is caused to~~ converges with the tape (5) in the plucking zone.

13. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to ~~any one of the~~ preceding claim[[s]] 12, **characterized in that** further comprising one or more of the tape (5) and ~~and~~ the additional tape (10) is an adhesive tape.

14. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to ~~any one of the~~ preceding claim[[s]] 11, **characterized in that** further comprising a device is provided for activating activates the drive motor when the epilator apparatus (1) is applied against the skin (2).

15. (Currently Amended) The epilator apparatus according to ~~any one of the preceding claim[[s]] 1, characterized in that~~ further comprising a hair alignment device disposed such that the hair alignment device ~~is arranged to precede~~ the tape (5).

16. (Currently Amended) A method of removing hair (3) by means of an epilator apparatus (4), ~~characterized in that~~ comprising:

placing a tape (5) ~~is brought into contacting relation to~~ in contact with the skin (2) by application of the epilator apparatus to the skin (4); ;

whereby adhering the hairs (3) ~~adhere~~ to the tape (5); ;

feeding the tape (5) ~~is fed into~~ a plucking zone of the epilator apparatus; (4), and

plucking the hairs (3) ~~are plucked~~ from the skin (2) in the plucking zone.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising:

guiding the tape (5) ~~is guided~~ away from the skin (2) in the plucking zone; and

lifting the hairs (3) ~~are thereby lifted~~ relative to the skin (2).

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that,~~ further comprising:

clamping together with the tape (5), and the lifted hairs (3) ~~are held clamped together~~ between two deflector elements (7, 11) ; and

extracting[[ed]] the lifted hairs from the skin (2).

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ the tape (5) sets further comprising:

rotating the two deflector elements (7, 11) ~~in rotary motion of opposite directions in~~ response to the motion of the tape.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any one of the claim[[s]] 18 or 19,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ during further comprising plucking of the hairs (3) fixing the position of the surrounding skin (2) ~~is held fixed~~ by the deflector elements (7, 11), while the hairs are plucked from the fixed skin in the plucking zone.

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any one of the claim[[s]] 16 to 20,~~
~~characterized in that~~ further comprising carrying both the hairs (3) ~~remain~~ adhered to the tape
(5) after plucking and ~~are carried the tape away together with the tape (5).~~

22. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any one of the claim[[s]] 16 to 21,~~
~~characterized in that the~~ further comprising feeding movement of the tape (5) produces such
that a forward movement of the epilator apparatus (1) relative to the skin is produced (2).

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any one of the claim[[s]] 16 to 21,~~
~~characterized in that~~ further comprising driving the tape (5) ~~is driven~~ by manually advancing
the epilator apparatus (1) relative to the skin (2).